

SUNDAY World's Department for the Oklahoma Amateur Poets

(Edited by The Man About Town)

As stated in Friday's World, the headliner this week is a poem entitled "The Woman Like Me." The problem is put up straight to the Man About Town to answer—and he refuses the responsibility, not from cowardice, but because words more wonderful than he can pen have already answered it.

Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."—Isaiah.

"Neither do I condemn thee; go and sin no more."—Jesus Christ.

It is no strange coincidence, but the Man About Town article on today's editorial page, already in the hands of the printer when the poet arrived, bears upon the same subject. Why cannot all who profess the name of Jesus Christ free themselves from the cruel and hypocritical judgments which forever condemn women who at some time have for a moment faltered?

"The Woman Like Me"

Dear Man About Town: As I sit here to-night, Retrospecting alone in the dim candle light I wanted to write you—although I'm a woman—

To tell you my story, because you seem human; To ask you to tell me the truth as you see it; If there's hope in this world for a woman like me!

I believe you will do so, if but for the Or "consoling a heart, filled already to break; If of wisdom and kindness too much do I ask. Remember the import that lies in the task—The soul of a woman—your mother was a grand one, no doubt, to begot such a son—

Her soul can seek out in their grief and despair. To know if there's succor from these any where.

My story is old as "The Tales From the Hills." Where love enters in with its rapture and thrills, And awakens the passions of one who would be as pure as Madonna in her elasticity. My eyes held this beautiful vision of love, As holy, it seemed, as the moonbeams above; As tender as that of a mother could be. For the innocent offering she holds on her knee; As true as the stars, by the deep twilight To guard the fair jewels in the blue crown of heaven.

It held me in thralls that can't be bound, And far sweeter than any in the world found; Uprooting the heart of its deep bitterness, And making an Eden of life's wilderness.

My heart was so lonely, so chill and so bare; Disappointment and sorrow alone did I share; My arms felt so empty when often I pressed Them together in agony, close to my breast; That the God of sleep never would come to my call; Till the sunbeams of morning were flashed on the wall.

For the sin since committed I bow down in shame And beg that the blot may be cast from my name; The darkest of shadows that cling to my life, Is knowing I never was really his wife. Oh, if once more the light of the dawn I could see And know there is hope for a woman like me!

Think deep of my sorrows and ponder them well, And tell me—should living and death both should a woman be tortured or burned at the stake Because in a lifetime she made one mistake? Must she lose the fight for her honor and be forever an outcast—the woman like me!

Our good friend, D. B. Hamilton, submits the following. Every Christian should read the poem carefully, because Mr. Hamilton has certainly made a discovery and shows up the cross of compulsion in a new light. Suggested by Sunday school lesson Easter Sunday: "And they did compel one Simon, a Cyrenian, who passed by, coming out of the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to bear his cross."—Mark 15:21.

The story of Simon, the Cyrenian. In the midst of the roadway I met them. He bearing the weight of the cross, Bending and straining beneath it; For strength he was all at a loss.

They say they compelled me to bear it—No doubt they may think they are right—They lifted the cross to my shoulders Before I could read my right.

I saw him when feeding the thousands The crippled, the halt and the lame; I saw him raise dead to the living I loved and I worshipped his name.

And when in the land everlasting, Where Jesus, the blessed, is there, I'll meet you and have him tell you His cross I did willingly bear.

—D. B. HAMILTON.

Some time ago Joe Lantry brought to the World office two poems taken from the Notre Dame Scholastic, with the request that they be published in this column, thinking that they would be of interest to the many

friends of the school now living in Tulsa. One of them follows and the other will be used later on:

The Rhyme of the Ancient Ford Joke.

He lay upon his deathbed, His last lay at his side, His children knelt about him, ahl And, bitterly they cried.

They sniffed and sobbed and sobbed, Until the bed was soaked, Then all at once the old man sneezed, And hoarse, "oh!" and croaked.

He'd hardly knicked the bucket, Than all the tears stopped still, And up the old man jumped in glee To read the old man's will.

My son, you've killed my razor, My wife shall have the cat, To tell I leave the old farm clock And all such things as that.

To mother-in-law the parrot, The landlady gets the rent, And to myself I will the Ford That never yet was lent.

Ah, yes, that trusty razor, Sweet Bess! for which I crave, I want it when I'm buried— I want it at my grave.

For though it may look sickly With all its brass and tin, It's pulled me out of every hole I ever landed in.

—B. J. A.

That the verses of Jim Pilkington made a profound impression in spite of some errors in the first two stanzas is evidenced by the following generous appreciation by our friend "More Anon." Letters have come from other states, indicating the same sentiment:

Once I imagined that I could write; I scribbled dry and I scribbled night, Up in the morning before it was light, Scribbling on everything in sight.

I wrote about things I had never seen— Wrote about places I never had been, And every thought that I could glean I put into verses, and sent it in.

Some was accepted, some came back, So I kept right on the "brass track," Thinking always to "lose the crack," But now I know I am only a jack.

I did not over come a fair staff, Considering my way and style was rough, And I'll tell you, friends, it sure is tough, But right here's where I "holer," enough.

Since big Jim Pilkington "hit the trail" And the critic man "put a crimp in my tail," I'll attempt to write means but to fail, For all I can do is to weep and wail.

It from me, Jim, you're some poet, Your joke is on me—I am the goat; In fact, of course you know it; Verses and mine together show it.

For your good sense and you've got the sense, Your style is too good to let that pass; Send it and it to you without any "gas," You'll see the flowers—I'll "go to grass."

Who could not guess the answer to the following lines, even if the writer had not been kind enough to give it? Come again Q. L. C. whoever you are:

What? I hear it at the picture show, I hear it at the street; I hear it at my rooming house, I hear it where I eat.

Oh, no! 'Tis not the German note, Or even Mexico, Or who will get the Bull Moose vote I hear where'er I go.

But that which makes me wonder, Do they ever cease to talk, These Tulsa men, from talking That all (oil) absorbing lesson!

Effie D. Warren of Oilton, who has appeared in this column before, sends in something else too good to turn down. It has just a touch of feeling in it which gives any writing added interest.

What's the Good o' Larnin'? I reckon it's all right, ol' wife—I reckon It's all right; We've got the farm and we kin live, I thank the Lord tonight.

But, wife, it does seem kinder hard, that he can turn us down, Who've had the hardest kind of toil that he might live in town.

I 'low he hater to have me stop in front o' his fine house, Fer when I rung the bell terday 'twas still as any mouse;

But when I turned and driv away, I thort I'd jest look back, And seed the window curtain open, jes' a little crack.

Can't see no good in larnin', though I only wish I could; But then I can't see much nobow—my sight ain't none too good;

But when I holler "hey there, Joe," he'll mostly allers frown, And I can't help but understand; he aims to turn me down.

Oh, what's the good o' larnin' when it turns the ol' folks down? Tis ol' farm's a heap better'n any stock up place in town;

But still it's mighty hard, yer know—our only boy—our Joe, 'lowed that he must turn the ol' folks down.

The limerick contest has not attracted so far the interest expected. Probably many of the contestants are waiting to see how others will write. We submit three today, without using the names of the authors, just to stimulate other writers. We wish that a hundred limericks might reach us this week to be turned over to the judges. Remember, a year's free subscription to The Tulsa World is not to be sneezed at, particularly as long as the Sunday poets column continues.

Hint to Wives. His wife was always sickin'— He got an occasional kickin'— So he took on a poet, Went lookin' about, And found him a nice, pretty chicken.

Whack! Blam! Blouse! An editor sat in his den, Conversin' with different men, When in came a poet, And I'd have you know it, He never went in there again.

Help! Preacher! I hear of the land of the blessed, Where sinners may go to find rest; O tell me the story Of Christ and his glory, By sin I am sorely oppressed.

The Wherefore. "Why do you call that fellow Nero?" He has a very kind heart, "He's a rotten violinist."

A Sick Man. Two business men once found it necessary to visit Liverpool. Relating the events of the trip afterward, one of them remarked:

"Talk about sea-sickness! Had I known that Casey was afflicted that way, we never should have gone abroad. The very first hour out Casey collapsed and refused to brace up again. I tried all sorts of remedies on him, but without avail. All he would mutter was:

"Oh, I'm so ill!" "Finally, I cried out: "Can't you keep anything on your stomach man?" "Only my hands, George," he groaned; "only my hands."—Ex-change.

HOW PROPERTY MAN BECAME AN ACTOR

Honus Smith Spent 25 Years Learning Biz; Jumped to Stage in No Time.

Honus Smith of the Essanay studios spent 25 years becoming one of the best theater property men in Chicago—or anywhere for that matter. He spent just 25 minutes becoming a finished moving picture character actor. Director Haydon found himself "lucky" a man to fill the important role of "Property Man" in "The Strange Case of Mary Page"—a property man in a road company who is given the leading part when the star jumps his

contract and ditches the act. He remembered to recollect that Honus Smith's grandfather and great-grandfather were actors of note, and without warning he ordered Smith, property man, to become Smith, Property Man. It was the first time in his life that Smith had attempted to act. But he got away with it so well that in the eighth episode of the play he shared honors with Henry B. Walthall and Edna Mayo. Now he's drawing a "regular" salary. Such things happen—once in awhile.

Easy Game.

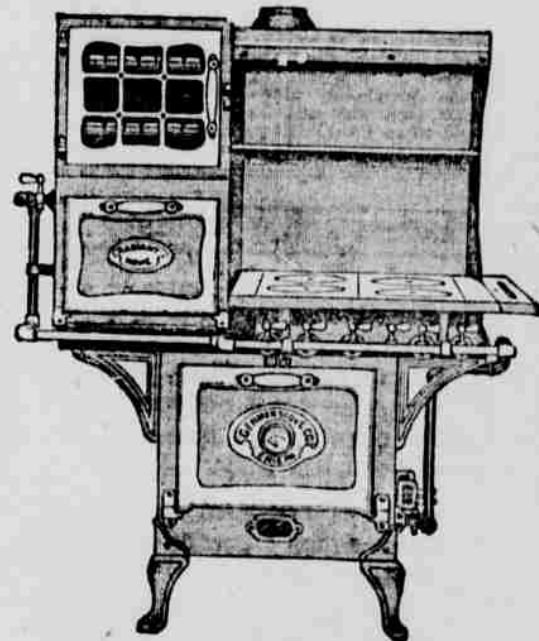
"That dog of yours seems fond of chasing trains."

"Yes."

"I wonder why."

"Well, he isn't much of a fighter. Trains are about the only thing he gets a chance to chase."

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AN ELOQUENT PLEA FOR THE "MOVIES"

"Be Patient," Urges Well-Known Magazine, "the Industry Is Young."

Under the caption "Patience" the June issue of Photoplay Magazine

makes an eloquent plea in behalf of the motion pictures. It says: Active photography, as a mirror of intelligence and an expander of deeper emotions, is little more than two years old, yet there are some people who criticize its adolescent faults as if it were aged as literature. How about it? First of all, it has served to lighten the lives of untold toiling millions

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in this, the tensest age of history. Apart from any other ministry or malministry, it has been the incomparable kind servant.

Before these who cannot travel it has made the rest of the world move in its accustomed way.

It has returned to the stage a lost art: pantomime.

It has put red blood into a drama which was becoming waxen with its back-parlor problems and dress-suit sensations.

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It has done more for the native story than the stage ever did.

It has created at least two epic plays.

It has borne a great tribe of the ruddiest, healthiest, luskiest players since the days of the strollers who traveled in vans from shire to shire.

And it is only two years old!

At two, Napoleon could have been crushed by the frailest drummer boy; Demosthenes must have gurgled incoherently, and certainly Scamson was performing no dental operations on lions.

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Patience, people—patience!

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